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INTERNATIONAL

THE  
EXCHANGE.

PHILATELIC

Mar.

1901.

REVIEW

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## *THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC REVIEW AND EXCHANGE.*

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March, 1901.

Peekskill, N. Y.

Subscription 25c.

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### THE STATUS OF REPRINTS.

Stamp collecting is no longer a mere hobby — a mere pastime, — or a mode of intertainment. Since the “wee-bits” have been closely studied, and each little joint about them noted and recorded, the collecting of stamps has developed into something more dignified, and today is called a science. And a science it really is; for just as soon as knowledge concerning a certain thing has been collected and recorded, and just as soon as some definite and constant truths and rules are laid down, just that soon does the subject merge itself into a science.

Hence it is as devotee of a science that we propose to discuss a subject which is not only relevant to the science, but which has more than once bothered the good natured collector. It is to be seriously doubted whether the question of whether a collector shall collect reprints or not, has not confronted every one sometime in his philatelic

career. Certainly, it is true, that the youngster who after having invested several dollars in the beautiful stamps of Heligoland et al, finds out to his utter dismay that they are merely reprints, — mere pictures of the originals. — he either abandons collecting altogether or else resolves from hence forth, never to buy another reprint.

Indeed the question of reprints is an important one. It not only confronts the beginner, but the advanced collector, too, finds with him, it is more than an idle question. More than once, does a question like this confront the advanced collector. "Here is a space to be filled, and should be filled by all means. Now, Jones, will sell me the original stamp for \$1.25, and Smith offers me a reprint for 25 cents. "Which shall I buy" and thus it happens that this question becomes so important.

The subject of Reprints is so vast that to treat it adequately would require too much space. But we must make some distinctions in an article of this kind and for that reason it is necessary to establish before going any farther just what a reprint in the generally accepted sense of the word is. Reprints have

been variously defined. One author calls them "Stamps reprinted from the original plates after the issue is obsolete." But it is evident that a definition of this sort is somewhat objectionable for the reason that the question of who is to do the reprinting is left open to doubt. In other words, a reprint printed from the original plates by private persons, is on the same level as one printed from the original plates by or under the direction of the government. This it seems to us, is a distinction which alters the whole subject, for reprints have been the work of both these agents. But since there does exist a distinction, it is possible to discuss this matter from several standpoints, and thus draw one good and solid conclusion.

Let us stop right here, long enough to enquire why reprints are collected. Are they collected because they serve the same purpose as the original to the casual observer and cost less, or because the original is not generally obtainable. While the former is an excuse very often given, the latter should be the rule. No reprint should be placed in one's album unless the original is so scarce as to make its price far beyond the reach of the collector.



Having accepted this rule our next step is the two varieties of reprints.

These two varieties are the result of government allowing private persons to reprint their issues (either through the sale or loan of the plates) when instead of doing that work themselves this has been done very often, and whenever done we are confronted with the question as to their worthiness of reposing in an album, while it is true that some have thus been printed with the sanction or under the direction of the government, it is also true on the other hand, that some have been reprinted without such authority. The latter must of course be at once branded as a counterfeit and they can hold no position with the collector. But the former present a more different problem. The question is 'should they be collected? In my opinion they are collectable; though far from being preferable. They should be resorted to only when it is utterly impossible to secure the original, for when a private person in a private capacity uses the seal of a country, and a stamp is a variation of the seal, the seal is worthless. It is an example of what the seal

looks like and further than that it has no real value.

But of government reprints one cannot say much more. Indeed they are also only an example, a pictorial representation of what a stamp is like and while they are more desirable than the others, they cannot or should not be more valuable. However, since to secure copies of all stamps is an impossibility the collection of these, as such, is advised.

As I said before the subject of reprints is a vast topic. Fain would I dwell on it at some length, but time and space says halt. But I can conclude no better than by urging the collector to strive for the original, and after that the government reprint — thus discouraging the private reprint (sometimes called a counterfeit.)

CLAUDE T. RENO.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

JOHN PELTZ, EDITOR.

ARLINGTON.

MINNESOTA.

Any news for this Dept. always solicited.

Once more I have been called to account, but I lay the blame to the printer, for a mis-statement in JAN. "EXCHANGE." In the second last paragraph it read in the manuscript "The current \$ 30.00 (thirty dollar) revenue bids fair to become a scarce stamp, used, ect"

## International Philatelic Review and Exchange.

The printer made the \$30 read \$3, and readers have been wondering what dealers sell it at three to five dollars per copy, as the \$3 revenue is comparative common and sell at about twenty cents each. Hope that the printer will be a little more careful next time.

The latest private proprietary stamp reported is the die for Ferret, which has not appeared yet. The stamp is oblong having the picture of a reindeer. This will probably close the private proprietary series as the tax on proprietary articles has been repealed. The speculative taint attached to some of these stamps has had a tendency to impair their favor but they are collected by a great many collectors still.

The current \$3, Documentary which has appeared in two colors, brown-lilac and reddish brown has been seen in another color; orange. This is undoubtedly a color changeling, and was caused by exposure, as there is no proof to show that this stamp was ever officially printed in this color.

The 1898 one cent green postage ( U. S. ) stamp surcharged J. H. is begining to rise in value. I have seen many dealers who say that they find it hard to fill orders for this stamp, and when they do sell them get nearly or full catalogue prices for them. Some years ago, some persons were foolish enough to decry this error, saying that the prices then asked for good copies (75c down to 40c) were too much. Now, the sayings of the wiseacres have turned out to be false, and it is now going to "boom."

• The tax on many articles has been repealed; proprietary stamps will shortly be obsolete, but a small part of the Documentary set will remain in use.



## EDITORIAL.

With this issue I begin doing the printing work on this paper being a new hand you can look for improvement each coming issue.

Again I am compeled to mail in ordinary wrappers as envelopes ordered will not have arrived in time for this issue, as they have to come from St. Louis by freight.

On account of limited space I found it not possible to have society reports in the I. P. R. & Ex This month is the last issue in which I can spare the space, members wishing me to continue sending them this magazine will please send their subscription. I will give a rare stamp to those sending with their renewal or new subscription a stamped envelope for reply.

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### EXCHANGE COLUMN.

A 16 word exchange notice free in each issue to subscribers. Extra words 1c each.

Will give paper cover book for stamp cat. 10c. Wm. H. Baker, Pond St. Quincy, Mass

X wanted with So. & Central Am. collectors in quantities. C. C. DeSelms, Richmond, Ind. U. S. A.

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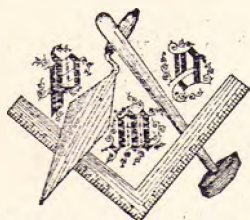
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AMT. due from each, 50 cents.

Degree members No. 7, 18, 21, due from each 55 cents will be suspended if not paid by April 10th.

The Exchange Dept. will hereafter be an elective office and the nominations to all elective offices close on April 1st.

#### CONTEST DEPT.

4th. Contest closed March 6th. Number decided upon was no. 41 and the winners were:—1st, C. Cooley, guess 40. 2nd, F. W. Smith, guess 19. 3rd Seymour, guess 13. 4th, F. W. Hartley, guess 13. the premium for each have been sent. Next contest will close Aug. 10th.

F. W. Hartley has advanced to VICE, 5th Degree, Feb. 11th for securing four new members after paying 36.75.

International Philatelic Review and Exchange.

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" " 1 dr A.M. on 40 l violet on grey blue, imp.	40
" " 2 dr A.M. on 5 l green, imperf.....	80
Orcha 1a .....	03
" 1a .....	05
" 2a .....	10
" 4a .....	18
Paraguay, 1900 Official, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, used the set.....	30
Spain, 1900, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25c the set....	25
" " 30, 40, 50c, 1p, the set.....	60
Transvaal, sur V.L.R., $\frac{1}{2}$ l, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ l, 3, 4p, set.	55
Uganda, 1896, type A2. 1a.....	50
" " " 2a.....	80

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